

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance. The present amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 7, 9-12, and 14-16 are currently pending. Claims 1-6, 8, 13, 17 and 18 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. Indeed, Applicants reserve the right to file one or more Divisional Applications presenting these claims. Claims 7 and 12, which are independent, are hereby amended. No new matter has been introduced. Support for this amendment is provided throughout the Specification as originally filed, and specifically at page 18. Changes to claims are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 7, 9-11, 12 and 14-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,970,386 to Williams (hereinafter, merely “Williams”) in view of ETR 211: Digital Video Broadcasting: Guidelines on Implementation and Usage of Service Information (hereinafter, merely “ETR”).

III. RESPONSE TO REJECTIONS

Claim 7, as amended, recites, *inter alia*:

“...wherein service identifiers of network information that is not retransmitted are deleted and placeholder data for the deleted service identifiers is added.” (emphasis added)

Applicants submit that neither Williams or ETR, taken alone or in combination, teach or suggest the features of claim 7. Indeed, Applicants submit that the Office Action concedes that, “Williams fails to disclose that the modulation means includes network information replacement means for replacing the demodulated network information with information for the first transmission path.” (See Office Action page 3, first full paragraph)

The Office Action points to ETR to provide the disclosure missing in Williams. Applicants respectfully submit that ETR fails to teach or suggest that service identifiers of network information that is not retransmitted are deleted and placeholder data for the deleted service identifiers is added, as recited in claim 7.

Furthermore, Applicants submit that ETR teaches away from adding data since ETR states in paragraph 4.1.8 that, “[i]t is not allowed to replace some sections of a sub-table by stuffing some sections while keeping others.” (See ETR, page 16)

Therefore, Applicants submit that independent claim 7 is patentable.

For reasons similar to, or somewhat similar to, those described above with regard to independent claim 7, amended independent claim 12 is also believed to be patentable.

IV. DEPENDENT CLAIMS

The other claims are dependent from one of the independent claims, discussed above, and are therefore believed patentable for at least the same reasons. Since each dependent

claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

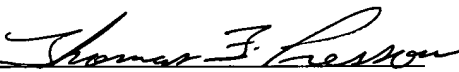
In the event the Examiner disagrees with any of statements appearing above with respect to the disclosure in the cited reference it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate those portions of the reference providing the basis for a contrary view.

Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicants respectfully request early passage to issue of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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